(d) if answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the reasons for charging subscription rates from the viewers by the pay channels at the same time wasting their precious time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) As per regulations/orders issued by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) the definition of Free to Air channel and pay channel for CAS (Conditional Access System) notified areas and for non-CAS areas are as follows:-

(i) CAS Areas – A 'free to air channel' means a channel for which no fee is to be paid the broadcaster for its transmission and which would not require the use of an addressable system attached with the receiver set of a subscriber. A 'Pay channel' means a channel for which fee is to be paid to the broadcaster for its transmission and which would require the use of an addressable system attached with the receiver set of a subscriber.

(ii) Non-CAS areas-A 'free to air channel' means a channel for which no fee is to be paid to the broadcaster for its transmission. However a 'Pay channel' means a channel for which fee is to be paid to the broadcaster for its transmission and reception by general public either directly or indirectly.

(b) The airing time period for any type of channel is not stipulated. The Broadcasters of pay or free channels are free to decide the time period of broadcasting their channels in a day.

(c) Yes, Sir. Sub-rule 11 of rule 7 of the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 has provided that no programme shall carry advertisements exceeding twelve minutes per hour, which may include upto ten minutes per hour of commercial advertisements, and upto two minutes per hour of channel's self promotional programmes. This sub-rule is equally applicable to free channels and pay channels.

(d) The business model of a channel is a mix of subscription revenues and advertisement revenues. Reduction of advertising time and revenue would thus require increase in subscription charges to augment subscription revenue. The fact that a channel is a pay channel does not ipso facto imply that no advertisement can be carried on it.

Representation of employees in Prasar Bharati Board

3250. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 provides for representation of employees of the Corporation in the Prasar Bharati Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said provision has been implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per Sub-Section 5(i) of Section 3 of Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 there will be two representatives of the employees of the Corporation in Prasar Bharati Board, of whom one shall be elected by the engineering staff from amongst themselves and one shall be elected by the other employees from amongst themselves.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Election to the representatives of Employees have not been held since the existing employees have not become full fledged employees of the Corporation as their have not been transferred to Prasar Bharati as per section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990.

Printing of foreign journals in India

3251. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign news journals, newspapers and weeklies are printed and circulated in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Government has allowed the publication of facsimile editions of foreign newspapers in the year 2006 and recently in the year 2008, the Government has also allowed the publication of Indian editions of foreign news magazines, subject to certain conditions. The guidelines are available on ***www.mib.nic.in.***

Till date, permission has been given for publication of facsimile editions of two foreign newspapers namely, 'The Wall Street Journal' and 'The Wall Street Journal Asia'. Permission has been also been given for publication of Indian edition of two foreign news magazines namely, 'Forbes' and 'The Spectator'.

Scrutiny of video games

3252. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is considering an amendment in the Cinematograph Act, 1952 to give the censor board mandatory powers to check video games entering the Indian market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.